Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program Funded Projects – 2010





The Historic Seligman Sundries, the oldest surviving commercial building in this former cattle ranching community, is a contributor to the Seligman Commercial Historic District. Image courtesy Frank Kocevar.



The Highland Theatre sign sits atop the theater designed by architect Lewis A. Smith. The City of Los Angeles designated the theater a Historic-Cultural Monument in 1991. Image courtesy Amy Inouye.



The Munger Moss started in this location as a roadside barbeque. In the mid-1940s, the owners of the restaurant built an adjacent motel. Image courtesy Ramona Lehman.

Arizona

Project: Historic Seligman Sundries Roof, Seligman, Arizona

Recipient: Private Owner

Amount: \$5,115 NPS, \$5,115 Match

With its distinct false-front, shading porch and an array of sweets and cool drinks, Seligman Sundries has been attracting travelers to its soda fountain since the 1920s. Built around 1905, the building served different purposes over the years, including a dance hall, theater and later, a drugstore. During the US 66-era went it by the name of Ted's Fountain and Trading Post, cars corralled around the store, as tourists stepped inside for a soda or sundries. The cost-share grant will install a new asphalt shingle roof, replicating close to how it looked during its Route 66 heyday.

California

Project: Relighting of Historic Signs of Figueroa Street,

Highland Park, California

Recipient: Nonprofit Organization **Amount:** \$6,812 NPS, \$15,148 Match

The Highland Theatre sign looms over North Figueroa Street (old US 66), creating a landmark for this neighborhood-like community of Latinos and artists, northeast of downtown Los Angeles. But at night, unlit, it fades away. Down the street, perched on the roof of Las Cazuelas, the old Manning's Coffee Store sign is only a skeleton, missing its neon and opal glass components. With a cost-share grant, the Friends of the Historic Signs of Figueroa Street will replace the blown-out incandescent bulbs of the community's landmark theater sign and restore the former coffee store sign. With these projects, the Friends' goal is to continue a lightning/signage theme along this stretch of urban Route 66.

Missouri

Project: Munger Moss Motel Sign Restoration, Lebanon,

Missouri

Recipient: Private Owner

Amount: \$11,300 NPS, \$11,300 Match

Its bright yellow directional arrow and multi-colored neon letters have attracted overnighters to the Munger Moss since the mid-1950s. But with time and the effects of weather, the sign is starting to show its age. Today, the "M" is missing from Moss and much of the neon tubing and geometrical neon design are missing or damaged. The grant will not only restore the main sign to working order, but also relight the "office" sign, a small sign made of bent neon tubing.

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The Wagon Wheel Motel sits on approximately five landscaped acres. It includes a stone-clad former café (now a gift shop) and a distinct wagon-wheel shaped neon sign. Image courtesy Connie Echols.



Completed in 1930, the Bristow Firestone Service Station is distinguished by its randomly patterned bricks and Art Deco lines. It served travelers and local continuously from its opening until the late 1990s.

Missouri, Continued

Project: Wagon Wheel Motel Restoration, Cuba, Missouri

Recipient: Private Owner

Amount: \$30,000 NPS, \$35,577 Match

Constructed in 1936, by the hands of Leo Friesenhan, a Hungarian-born stone mason from St. Louis, handsome stone trimmed Tudor Revival-style cabins attracted travelers to this estate-like motel. But over the years, with diminished traffic, the cabins and grounds began to deteriorate. The grant will fund a project to install a new HVAC system to cool and warm the cabins, and storm units over the original wood windows to conserve energy. It will also restore rotted eaves and porch members and refinish an original floor in one room, bringing this National Register-listed motel up to speed.

Oklahoma

Project: Bristow Firestone Station Restoration/Renovation,

Bristow, Oklahoma

Recipient: Private Owner

Amount: \$30,000 NPS, \$86,925 Match

Just three months before October 29, 1929, "Black Tuesday," the Bristow Daily Record announced the Firestone Corporation had purchased land at the north end of Main Street of this central Oklahoma city to build a full-service gas station, promising it would to be "one of the most modern in the state." Despite the onset of hard times, Firestone held to its promise, completing a stylish, six-bay, Art Deco designed, one-stop filling station the next year. Eighty years later, a Bristow native will use a cost-grant to restore the National Register-listed filling station for new use as a body repair shop and a tribute to Route 66.